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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Tsuyoshi NAKAJIMA et al.

Group Art Unit : 2625

Appl. No. : 09/854,607

Examiner : Yubin HUNG

Filed : May 15, 2001

Confirmation No. : 9197

For : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DETECTING A DEFECT IN
PROJECTED PORTIONS OF AN OBJECT HAVING THE
PROJECTED PORTIONS FORMED IN THE SAME SHAPE WITH A
PREDETERMINED PITCH ALONG AN ARC

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop _____
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,
Applicants hereby submit a copy of a German Office Action that was mailed on June 4,
2004 (together with an English language translation of the same), with respect to patent
family member German Patent Application No. DE 101 24 787.7, in which the following
documents were cited:

European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 704 172, which was published
on April 3, 1996; and

European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 791 822, which was published
on August 27, 1997.

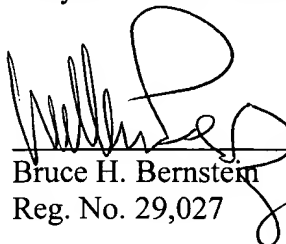
The relevance of each document, as ascertained by the German Examiner
applying German rules to the German claims is as set forth in the German Office Action.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached hereto and are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. A copy of the German Office and its English language translation are also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants furthermore certify that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. Moreover, since prosecution has been closed in the present application (Notice of Allowance mailed August 24, 2004, issue fee not paid) the fee of \$180.00 is submitted herewith. Thus, consideration is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

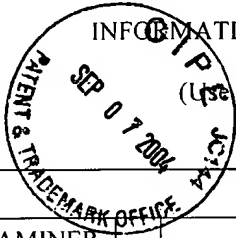
Respectfully Submitted,
Tsuyoshi NAKAJIMA et al.


Bruce H. Bernstein
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Reg No 33630

September 2, 2004
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Group
2625

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DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.